

1967

Early in the year 1967, the membership finally arrived at that coveted one thousand mark. The National Officers held a phone conference in lieu of the mid-year Board Meeting, which proved very satisfactory. Experience should make future ones even more so. Many topics were discussed that would help in the decisions that had to be made in the forth coming convention in Philadelphia.

Arizona Chapter had a really organized and aggressive group of members working toward the massage law that had just narrowly eluded them in the past few years. The same efficient roster of officers were still carrying the ball.

In California, the State General Meeting was held in Sacramento on February 18th and 19th, 1967, with a good turn out. The Board decided the 1968 National Convention was to be held in Long Beach instead of San Francisco, since a suitable hotel with reasonable rates could not be had. Mr. D. Knauss, Executive Secretary of the State Barbers Board, met with the C.M.T.A. Board to discuss massage legislation and re-draft the Massage Bill. A Massage Licensing Board would be a separate Board under the Barbers Board. Reason ... no new Board would be formed and a new Board must be placed under an existing Board. The Barbers Board was not interested in running the masseurs and would loan money to start a License Board.

California decided to hold future State Conventions in February rather than June. National President Fink suggested that there be a Western District Conference held yearly and California approved of this plan. \$1,000.00 was taken in through various fund raising projects during the year. After a terrific legislative battle, California's Massage Bill got through all the committees, the Assembly and the Senate. It reached the Governors desk, but was apparently left unsigned or pigeon-holed.

California Chapter met in Fresno for their State Convention on June 16th to the 18th, where all State officers were re-elected. In addition to the several lectures and demonstrations, there was a First Aid lecture and film brought to them by the Fresno Chapter of the American Red Cross. Attempts were made to push California's Massage Bill through the next session of the Legislature but nothing came of it, and this was very disappointing and discouraging to the members. However, California was determined to "keep on keeping on" until something gives even in the face of almost insurmountable obstacles. Educational Chairman Lloyd Allen reported that due to a new interpretation of the California law, the use of any letters after ones name is now a felony rather than a misdemeanor.

Colorado Chapter was working toward the goal of a state school of massage and a massage bill. In a two day meeting held in Denver, all officers were re-elected.

Florida had their Second Annual Convention and their President, Paul Sittler, who is also 1st Vice-president of the National, was busy getting his chapter's business set into order, because an even greater challenge began to loom ahead, that of the National Presidency. Virginia George was taking part in the Florida affairs after moving from Massachusetts to Florida. Officers remained the same.

Georgia Chapter officers for 1967 were; Jane C. Felts, President, Josephine B. Dinkler, Vice-president and Lillian Derry, Secretary-treasurer. Again there was a "3 in 1" family who were members of the A.M.T.A., Paul, Lucille and William McAllisters of Macon, Georgia who worked for the Y.M.C.A.

Idaho officers were; Frank L. Harrold, President, Sarah I. Lee, Vice-president and Margaret J. White, Secretary-treasurer.

Illinois State officers were re-elected and they had plans for several teaching sessions with Dr. Young of Missouri and also organizing a down state Unit.

Indiana Chapter elected a new Vice-president, Ethel L. Kirkpatrick. All other officers remained the same.

Iowa Chapter officers were re-elected.

Kansas Chapter dropped to three members which was not a quorum, so they could not hold meetings.

Massachusetts Chapter on its tenth anniversary elected its organizer and first President, Ann B. White, back into presidency. Other officers were Aldino E. Capodilupa, 1st Vice-president, Cristine E. Leete, 2nd Vice-president, Linnea E. Jacobson, 3rd Vice-president, Thelma Kinsman, Secretary-treasurer and Philip W. Burda Corresponding Secretary.

Michigan Chapter officers were; Adam D. Hoffman, President, Bernard L. Matz, Vice-president, Irene E. Gauthier, Secretary-treasurer, Shirley M. Steel Recording Secretary and George Sharpp, Chaplin. This chapter saw great strides in their legislative program and they conducted a vigorous investigation of a broader insurance program. They were working on a state member directory.

Missouri Chapter was to hold a first state meeting in St. Louis. A post graduate study group with Dr. Young, it was hoped, would help build a fund for their legislative program. Their state officers were; Irvin Burns, President, Nelson G. Morgan, Vice-president, Olive Bruce, Secretary-treasurer and Cordella Hardy, Chaplin.

Montana Chapter with all new officers who were; Carl Saunders, President, Elizabeth G. Banderob, Vice-president, Lillian B. Linse, Secretary and Glenn R. Carrington, Treasurer. Montana was successful in getting a massage law passed with an overwhelming majority vote in favor of the bill. They had not intended to enter a bill this year, for they were discouraged by their many failures, but on the advice of their attorney, they entered the bill at the last minute. Montana's efforts and victory should be an inspiration to all of us.

National Capital Area was busy working on a massage law for Maryland. All officers were re-elected.

Nebraska Massage Association graciously offered to host the first Mid-western Conference to be held in their state. Delegates gathered on April 29th and 30th at the Castle Hotel in Omaha. The program was well organized and wonderfully constructive in spite of the little time they had to prepare for it. Judging by the favorable remarks made by members who attended, there was an aura of warm fellowship there. Nebraska State Officers must have been doing a wonderful job for they were again kept in office.

North Dakota Chapter officers were held over with the exception of Secretary, which was filled by Vlast G. Vejtas and Carrie Arneson Treasurer. Elwood Anderson, 3rd Vice-president of the National and a member of the North Dakota Chapter, met with the South Dakota members on June 25, 1967 to help re-organize their state chapter.

South Cakota Chapter officers were; President Vernon Jeffries, Vice-president Floyd Hauk and Secretary-treasurer Florence Waltner.

Oregon State Chapter gained new members and lost none in 1967. Their now officers were; President William L. Bates, Vice-president Carrol C. Quimby and Secretary-treasurer Edna Rue. During the year Edna Rue contacted every liconsed masseur in Oregon, with an invitation to join the Association.

Pennsylvania Chapter, the "Keystone State" and home of the Liberty Bell was host to the Twenty Second Annual National Convention. Delegates gathered August 2nd through the 6th, 1967, in the Bon Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia. The convention started off with a States Officers Broakfast where forty gathered to discuss some of the problems of their own states which were of interest to other states. The first day was devoted to workshop and demonstrations to about ninety members and guests who were eager to give and receive new ideas. A showing of the massage film prepared by Illinois member Arthur U. Hiivala was well received. It was decided that applications for membership were to be accompanied by not only a picture of the applicant, but also a photostatic copy of the diploma indicating training or letter providing experience and two letters of character reference. Student memberships were to be limited to two years. Memberships were also to be maintained in the orininal chapter in which the member joined unless member requests transfer to another chapter in writing. No practicing Chiropractic Physician working under a license in any given state would be elegible for membership in the A.M.T.A. Should he be living in a state that does not license him as a D.C. and he qualifies in training in massage according to present A.M.T.A. standards, he may apply for membership. A member is to have one voice in voting on a National level, but he may hold membership in as many chapters as he desires, providing the full annual dues are paid in each state. State Secretaries were to send in quarterly reports to the National Secretary so that all of these could be incorporated in her report later in the month. This was a revival of a similar method used in 1954 to keep contact with state chapters and members. Profits from the National Conventions were divided equally between the host state and the national treasuries. This fund to be used for promotion of our educational features in National Convention.

Fun time at the National Convention in Philadelphia was spent in a three hour ride on a chartered "Showboat" up the river, a tour of this old historic city, including Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell, The Betsy Ross House, Christ's Church where many Americans, including George Washington and his family, worshipped and Ben Franklin's Grave. All of these memories will be long remembered. Another first this year was the election of the same National Officers who were chosen to serve a third term.

Delegates had the pleasure of meeting Attorney Kirkpatrick W. Dilling for the first time since he had become the A.M.T.A. Counsellor. He spoke to the group on the type of work involved in our profession from a legal standpoint. He said that a very co-ordinated and dedicated effort would be required to protect the people in our profession. He reminded members that a few could do much, using as his example a little group of eleven ordinary people whose activity resulted in the spread of Christianity throughout the world. He also stated that, in his opinion the difference between the physical therapist and the massago therapist is a clear cut one - the former is in the disease business and the latter is in the health business. This makes them separate professions.

The Pennsylvania Chapter made \$800.00 on the convention. Now state officers for

the year were Edgar Hellinger, President, Inez V. Ahlquist, 1st Vice-president, Mary B. Campbell, 2nd Vice-president, Stewart E. Miller, 3rd Vice-president, Marvin Herb, Secretary-treasurer, John Hiestand, Recording Secretary and Leslie B. Hock, Chaplin.

Tennessee Chapter now numbering eight were very active. James Bowling, their President, got around to several of the surrounding states for meetings. All of their officers were re-elected.

Texas Chapter with the same officers serving again this year was faced with important decisions as to establishing a massage training center. Local regulations in Houston, had dashed the hopes of the DePalma School eventually serving this purpose. Texas had a fine gain in membership making a total of forty-five.

Utah Chapter officers were all re-elected and stated that they were growing and going forward in the A.M.T.A.

Washington Chapter made a change in their meeting place and delegates met at the mountain cabin of Jess and Ruth Williams in Winthrop on June 4th, 1967. Montana members, Howard and Billie Riddle, were guests and a fine program was enjoyed with lots of food and fun and fresh air. State officers elected were; President Jess C. Williams, Vice-president Mae Backus and Secretary-treasurer Don Mumford. The State Legislative Committee was keeping an ever watchful eye peeled for unfavorable legislation. Conditions in the King County area surrounding Seattle, indicated the strong need for a state massage law. However, since this seemed to be an impossibility, approach had to be made on a county level. County Commissioners were approached and work was begun on a County Ordinance.

Wisconsin officers remained the same with the exception of Vice-president and Roy LeRoy was elected to the office. Wisconsin Chapter was holding two meetings yearly, and although the legislative prospects were out of the question, members were happy with their working conditions. It looked as though Minnesota law might come in for some encouraging revisions. Plans were going forward for the upcoming Mid-western Conference in Milwaukee on April 27th and 28th, 1968.

1968

As this report on the history of the A.M.T.A. draws to a close there is very little that we can report on the activities of the various chapters during this year, except that the Washington Legislative Committee was successful in getting the ordinance passed in King County requiring a license for massage therapists and forbidding attendants of sauna houses to attend the opposite sex.

There were some very interesting things in the air for 1968. Nebraska was planning a Spring state meeting after the Mid-western Conference. South Dakota only seven months old and with nine members were planning to incorporate shortly. Massachusetts expected to send at least two members to the California National Convention. The National Capital Area expressed a wish to host a regional meeting in 1969. They also had their Second Annual Dinner meeting on February 25, 1968. Florida Chapter was making fine progress in their program planning for the 1969 National Convention to be held in their state. Washington Chapter met again in Moses Lake and officers chosen were; President Don Mumford, Vice-president Pearl Hoppe and Secretary-treasurer Mae Backus.

Elwood Anderson has finished the drafting of a uniform state constitution and by-laws and I HAVE FINISHED THIS REPORT.

Arizona Chapter Officers elected in 1968 were: O. Eugene Wahlberg, President; Harold G. Swanstrom, 1st Vice-President; Roy L. Bulman, 2nd Vice-President and Pauline M. Chamberlain, Secretary-Treasurer. Gene Wahlberg, along with David S. Carlson and Ina Bell Campbell had their heads together in plans for a Western Regional Conference some time in early 1969.

California Chapter held two State meetings this year, and was host to a National Convention. Their officers elected were: Lloyd J. Walker, President; J. L. Hatch, Vice President; Anna Hoopes, Exec. Secretary and Susie L. Dalton, Treasurer. Due to opposition in legislature, this Chapter was unable to realize its aim to get passage of a Massage Bill. They were laboring under a severe financial handicap, but they still kept pressing onward. New Chapter members, under the guidance of Anna Hoopes, were busy during the early months of 1968 getting ready for the national convention, which was held in Sacramento, August 7th to 11th at the Senator Hotel. Viola Kinkler, Convention Co-Chairman, did an admirable job as M. C. and general run-a-rounder, attending to the millions of errands connected with the management of such a convention.

At this meeting, Elwood A. Anderson, North Dakota, reported that all of his assignments were completed and that three states enacted massage laws in 1967 - Minnesota, Montana and New York.

Irene Gauthier, Michigan, reported that up to this time, only forty-five members had availed themselves of the liability program and that we stood the chance of losing the program unless more members participated.

Robert Taylor, Toronto, Canada, was introduced and he expressed a hope for joint activity between his group and ours. Ruth E. Williams, Washington, told of the research now completed to bring this history up to date, and spoke of the co-operation of Milton A. Neidfelt in placing his records at her disposal. The University of Washington requested that many items of this history of the AMTA be placed in their archives.

A Memorial Tribute was conducted by Irene Jordan, California, for the following deceased AMTA members: Catherine Hellinger, Pa.; Aldina Capodilupo, Massachusetts; Mary Konkel, Michigan; Harry Goodman, Texas; Gale Biersdorf, Arizona; Richard Frysinger, Illinois; Frank Shipp, Pa.; Genevieve Bunch, Oregon and Nettie Bunker, Michigan.

President Thomas R. Fink gave a very stirring and timely message on the progress of the AMTA and some final advice: "Go calmly amid the noise and the haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence and if you fail, try again, so that both your today and tomorrows will be filled with blessings". His message was followed by his presentation of a personal gift to the AMTA members in the form of a beautiful engraved bronze bell for sounding the gavel and expressed the hope that it would long ring in the "Liberty for All" symbolized by another bell in his home town, Philadelphia Pennsylvania.

Amendments passed at this convention were: (1) Profits of the National Convention are to be divided between the Host State and the National Convention Fund. (2) The State Secretary-Treasurer shall send quarterly reports to the National Secretary-Treasurer and to their District Directors to keep them informed of activities. (3) District Directors may be recommended, at District Conferences, for nomination to the national nominating committee by the district they serve. (4) State Chapters may recommend a certain member who has performed meritorious service in behalf of the AMTA to the national convention for a National Service Award Plaque. Final choice is to be made by an appointed service award committee. (5) That a complete list of State Officers be printed in the August issue of the Massage Journal. (6) That a Western District conference be held annually. (7) That a National Finance Chairman be appointed by the President, subject to the Board of Director approval, to initiate and co-ordinate all fund raising activities, and to serve in an advisory capacity to State Chapter finance Committees.

The Nominating Committee appointed was: Ida Thorson, Rhode Island, Chairman, Jimmy Jenkins, Tennessee, Mabel Huggins, Wisconsin, Don Hudson, Iowa, Margaret White, Idaho, Ruth Williams, Washington, and J. Lew Hatch, California. For a list of national officers elected, see appendix in back of book.

California made arrangements to repay their loan to the National Treasurer at the rate of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per month.

Colorado Chapter expects to establish a massage training center and to obtain legislation. They were meeting obstacles but members were still trying. Their officers were: Melvin J. Detton, President, James S. Fish, Vice President and Ina B. Campbell, Sec'y-Treasurer.

Florida Chapter was well into plans for 1969 national convention under the chairmanship of Virginia George. They had a fine year in which there was educational activity and every meeting had special speakers. Their officers were: Rolland H. Hopp, President, Cecil W. George, 1st Vice-President, Virginia C. George, 2nd Vice-President, Anthony D. Rosetti, 3rd Vice-President and William C. Outten, Sec'y-Treasurer. Their Directors were: David Sacks, Harry Epstein and Paul A. Sittler. Florida had an official "house cleaning" and dropped some delinquent members and expelled two others - a hard job to do, but necessary sometimes.

Georgia Chapter officers for 1968 were: Clarence W. Jones, President and Jane C. Felts, Sec'y-Treasurer.

Idaho, with the same roster of officers met four times a year and members shared their knowledge with one another along with the dream of a massage bill passage. Their group was saddened by the death of husbands of Carrie Bell Rose and Lillian Johnson.

Illinois Chapter officers elected were: Emil J. Ruff, President, Michael Thomas, Vice-President, Beatrice T. Huff, Secretary and Lucille M. Kolk, Treasurer.

Indiana Chapter members kept in touch with three annual meetings at which there was an average of thirty-five in attendance. All officers re-elected were: Elwin L. Graham, President; Ethel L. Kirkpatrick, Vice President; Darlene M. Frey, Secretary-Treasurer and their Directors as follows: Mildred R. Shaffer, William L. McLain, William E. DeVinney and Marie L. Gates.

Iowa Chapter, although small, was faithful and kept a constant vigilance for opposing legislature. All officers were re-elected: Arles G. Bahl, President; James A. Cunningham, Vice President and Floy Brownlie, Secretary-Treasurer.

Kansas Chapter was re-organized in Wichita through the neighborly efforts of Mildred Konsella, Broken Bow, Nebraska. Officers elected were: G. C. Lamb, President, Fidelis J. Schmidt, Vice-President, Helen M. Kasper, Secretary-Treasurer. They had fourteen members and three student members.

Massachusetts Chapter officers were: Ann B. White, President; Henry A. LaFleur, 1st Vice-President; Christine E. Leete, 2nd Vice-President; Linnea E. Jacobson, 3rd Vice-President; Thelma G. Kinsman, Secretary-Treasurer and Emily W. Burda, Corresponding Secretary. Henry A. LaFleur has opened a School of Massage in connection with the Bancroft Health Club in Worcester. Members attending expressed the feeling that all members should attend at least a few meetings to retain their membership in the AMTA.

Michigan Chapter officers were Irene E. Gauthier, President; Patrick J. O'Connell, Vice-President, Adam D. Hoffman, Secretary-Treasurer, Patrick J. O'Connell, Recording Secretary, George F. Sharp, Chaplain and Directors: Reva L. Confer, Francis J. Diegel, David Kennedy, and Mary Lou Sherman. Enthusiasm is high in their state and members are not defeated by the failure of their Massage Bill, as they had very near success and high hopes for the next time. They have only spent about \$300.00 per year in legislative expense. Plans were progressing for hosting the April, 1969 Mid-West Conference. The Meritorious Service Award was presented to Irene E. Gauthier at the Convention Banquet in Sacramento. Mary Lou Sherman was the first to receive the similar honor in 1967 in Philadelphia.

Missouri Chapter officers were all re-elected as follows: Irvin B. Burns, President; Nelson G. Morgan, Vice-President; Olive L. Bruce, Secretary-Treasurer and Codella C. Hardy, Chaplain.

Montana Chapter re-elected all officers: Carl W. Saunders, President; Elizabeth G. Banderob, Vice-President; Lillian B. Linse, Secretary and Glenn R. Carrington, Treasurer. They held a post-graduate class conducted by Dr. Eugene Young, of Kansas City, Missouri, with twenty-five in attendance. This Chapter now boasts over forty members.

National Capitol Area has a roster of new officers: C. Macaulay Ward, President; Ethel M. Reynolds, Vice-President; Eli G. Jordan, Secretary and Jennie E. Albana, Treasurer. This Chapter is one of the few that is not working on legislation for the present.

Nebraska Massage Association elected new officers in 1968, and they were: Carol C. Chittenden, President, Russel L. Wright, 1st Vice-President, Olive H. Bausch, 2nd Vice-President, Josephine A. Brandes, Sec'y-Treasurer, and the following Directors: Lewis B. Wentz, Lyle A. Strunk, Geraldine Kennedy and Mildred Korsella. Their meetings are well planned and they had a 90% attendance in two State Conventions. They had several out of state visitors at their meetings, proving they are indeed the "Friendly People". Gladys Hladik, a long time member was given honorary membership and Leora John, another early days member, was re-instated. Nebraska enjoyed 100% paid up membership.

North Dakota Massage Therapy, Inc. gained two members and since their state massage law required convention attendance, they hold one three day annual meeting in April. Cecil and Virginia George of the Florida Chapter presented an informative program. The new officers elected were: B. Corrice Lere, President, Lyle J. Lunde, 1st Vice-President, Albert E. Dahlgren, 2nd Vice-President, Vlast S. Vejtaso, Secretary and Carrie Arneson, Treasurer.

Oregon Chapter held over their officers for another year. These members are all pulling together and plans were under way for the National Convention in their state in 1971 and the Western Conference in April 1969. Oregon Chapter is proud of their AMTA Queen, Lydia S. Norris, who was 96 years old on August 1, 1968. "Dream planning" for a good sound massage school is on the agenda.

Pennsylvania Chapter held their 10th annual massage clinic this year and a complete new roster of officers were elected: Marvin E. Herb, President, Alvin L. Thomas, 1st Vice-President and Joel Janis Reilly, Secretary-Treasurer.

Rhode Island Chapter, with President James M. Forrest and Secretary-Treasurer Ida N. Thorson still acting as officers, were a very close knit group with Massachusetts, with whom they met frequently.

South Dakota Chapter had By-Laws and signed articles prepared for incorporation. They gained two members and lost none. They held two meetings a year for two day sessions in workshop, etc. All officers were held over as follows: Vernon R. Jeffries, President, Floyd A. Hauk, Vice-President and Florence M. Waltner, Secretary-Treasurer. Plans are in the air to host a mid West Conference.

Tennessee Chapter officers for 1968 were Virginia L. Daniel, President, Robert W. Luttrell, Vice-President and Jimmy L. Jenkins, Secretary-Treasurer. Although we don't hear much from this chapter as a whole, there are some mighty "on fire" members there, and some good things are coming out of that state. James Bowling leaped feet first into his duties as National Educational Director, laying plans for an Educational Fund to further the work from his office, such as approving schools, giving RMT exams and research.

Texas has a State Chartered Massage Training School in Marlin ready to open January, 1969; a fine achievement. This young state now